Raymond Durgnat was a maverick voice during the golden age of film criticism. From the French new Wave and the rise of auteurism, through the late s counter-culture, to the rejuvenated Hollywood of the s, his work appeared in dozens of publications in Britain, France and the USA. At once evoking the film culture of his own times and anticipating our digital age in which technology allows everyone to create their own 'moving image-text combos', Durgnat's writings touch on crucial questions in film criticism that resonate more than ever today.
Bringing together Durgnat's essential writing for the very first time, this career-spanning collection includes previously unpublished and untranslated work and is thoroughly introduced and annotated by Henry K. Voransicht des Buches. Was andere dazu sagen - Rezension schreiben. Alle anzeigen. Henry K. After leaving the army in, he studied English literature at Pembroke College, Cambridge. The thesis he wrote there provided the source material for a number of his books. In the early s, he had written for Sight and Sound, but fell out with this British Film Institute publication after the exit of Gavin Lambert in, often accusing it of elitism, puritanism, and upper-middle-class snobbery, notably in his essay "Standing Up For Jesus" which appeared in the short-lived magazine Motion, which he co-edited with Ian Johnson and in his piece "Auteurs and Dream Factories" an edited version of which later appeared in Films and Feelings.

From he was a regular presence in the monthly Films and Filming, writing reviews and serial essays. The rise of structural film at the LFMC and of structuralism in the journal Screen — and the far-left politics which accompanied the latter — saw Durgnat become an outsider figure within British film culture. Returning to London at the close of the decade, he launched a series of withering assaults on the linguistics-based film theory that had come to dominate film academia over the previous decade; perhaps as a result, he did not publish another new book until He did, however, return to write for the BFI publication Monthly Film Bulletin in the years before its merger with Sight and Sound in, and contributed to that publication again later in the s.

The Essential Raymond Durgnat, published in — again by the BFI — contains previously unpublished work, including a translation of an essay originally published in Positif on Michael Powell, on whom Durgnat began but did not complete a full-length book. It also includes such rare pieces as "Standing Up for Jesus". The collection was described by Adrian Martin as "the essential film book of this or almost any year ". Durgnat's socio-political approach — strongly supportive of the working classes and, almost as a direct result of this, American popular culture, and dismissive of left-wing intellectuals whom he accused of actually being petit-bourgeois conservatives in disguise, and dismissive of overt politicisation of film criticism, refusing to bring his own left-wing views overtly into his writings on film — can best be described as "radical populist".

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Raymond Durgnat - Wikipedia

Durgnat was born in London in to Swiss parents who had emigrated to England in He was educated at the Sir George Monoux School, a state grammar school in Walthamstow, before serving his statutory two years of National Service, which he spent in the Education Corps in Hong Kong, then a British possession. After leaving the army in, he studied English literature at Pembroke College, Cambridge. The thesis he wrote there provided the source material for a number of his books. In the early s, he had written for Sight and Sound, but fell out with this British Film Institute publication after the exit of Gavin Lambert in, often accusing it of elitism, puritanism, and upper-middle-class snobbery, notably in his essay "Standing Up For Jesus" which appeared in the short-lived magazine Motion, which he co-edited with Ian Johnson and in his piece "Auteurs and Dream Factories" an edited version of which later appeared in Films and Feelings.

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The Essential Raymond Durgnat | Henry Knight Miller |
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The Essential Raymond Durgnat: : Henry K. Miller: British Film Institute

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